

Please amend Claim 53 as follows:

53. (Twice Amended) A kit for amplifying a target sequence contained within a target polynucleotide, comprising in packaged combination:

- (a) an oligonucleotide primer that can hybridize to a primer binding site of the target polynucleotide,
- (b) a control polynucleotide having a sequence to which said oligonucleotide primer hybridizes except for 1-10 nucleotides at the 3'-end of said oligonucleotide primer,
- (c) a modified oligonucleotide primer that is substantially identical to said oligonucleotide primer except for a chemical modification at its 3'-end that prevents degradation, by a 3' to 5' exonuclease, of said 1 to 10 nucleotides,
- (d) nucleoside triphosphates, and
- (e) a polymerase having 3' to 5' exonuclease activity.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and the following remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action of January 19, 2001. In this amendment, Applicant has amended Claim 53 in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which Applicant regards as the Invention. Support for amended Claim 53 can be found generally throughout the instant Application, and particularly at pages 53-55, Figures 1-3, and Claims 1-57 as filed. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to Claim 53 by the instant Amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

The Invention is Enabled

Claims 1-52 and 59-65 have been rejected 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as not being